

Today's News - June 15, 2006

A look at megacities: problems and solutions (if there are any). – Public housing turned to dust in New Orleans. – Perhaps there are lessons in a new neighborhood in Valencia. – A new convention hotel for L.A. (never mind the homeless problem). – A new home for Royal Shakespeare Company maintains its Art Deco roots. – A welcome revamp for Cork County Hall (not welcomed by all). – How Toronto's new opera house stacks up against the rest. – A new musical life for an old San Francisco ferry. – Cheers (and disappointment) in pick for university stadium design. – Maas has a battle plan. – A "Scottish house" in Slovia built by architecture graduates from Edinburgh University. – Two more takes on Gehry flick.

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[The List: The World's Megacities: ...everyday headaches can quickly become mammoth problems — putting both lives and treasure at risk....FP looks at the problems plaguing six of them.](#) - Foreign Policy

[5,000 Public Housing Units in New Orleans Are to Be Razed: ...replaced by developments for residents with a wider range of incomes.](#) - New York Times

[Housing plan mixes history and high rise: Valencia has started building a neighbourhood based around ancient market gardens and irrigation systems...to become Sociopolis... -- Vicente Gualart; Foreign Office Architects](#)- Guardian (UK)

[L.A. Convention Center to Get Major Hotel Tower: The complex would give downtown the magnet for business conferences it has lacked for years...\\$750-million project would be one of the largest buildings in Los Angeles at 2 million square feet.](#) – Gensler [\[images\]](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Royal Shakespeare Company unveils \[£100m\] 'transformation' plan: ...will "restore the key Art Deco elements of the Grade II listed theatre while creating a more welcoming, combined entrance" -- Bennetts Associates; Charcoalblue](#) [\[image\]](#)- BBC News

[Revamp moves tower up in design stakes: Cork County Hall will be officially re-opened... Architecturally and environmentally, the tower has been enhanced rather than debased... By Frank McDonald -- Patrick McSweeney \(1968\); Docomomo; Shay Cleary Architects](#)- Irish Times

[Crowd Pleaser: Sizing up Toronto's new opera house: ...a look at how Toronto's new venue stacks up against the world's great opera houses.](#) – Diamond + Schmitt- CBC (Canada)

[Carrying a Tune: A recital hall in a ferryboat is a new kind of public living room that adds to the San Francisco vibe. By Zahid Sardar.](#) – Lamberto Moris; Auerbach + Associates; Kirkegaard [\[images\]](#)- San Francisco Chronicle

[University picks firm to design new \[\\$248 million, 50,000-seat\] stadium -- HOK Sport; HNTB; Crawford Architects](#)- Minnesota Daily

["How can you beat them?" asks Winy Maas of MVRDV rhetorically. He is setting out the battleground of contemporary architecture like a general plotting the response to an invasion. "New Urbanism in the US is highly politicised and very successful, and there's the retro architecture in Europe which is like an oil spill going over the European landscape."](#)- Icon magazine (UK)

[Building upon a charitable idea: \[in\] Slovakian village of Svinia..."the Scottish house"...community centre is nicknamed in honour of the architecture graduates from Edinburgh University who designed and built it.](#) – Voluntary Design and Build (VD&B) [\[images\]](#)- The Scotsman (UK)

[What Makes Frank Run?: Sketches of Frank Gehry, a new documentary from veteran director Sydney Pollack, serves up an affectionate portrait of the world's most famous architect. By Lynn Becker](#) [\[images\]](#)- Repeat

[Sydney's frank with Gehry: As Frank Gehry reflects on his artistic journey in a new documentary by pal Sydney Pollack, the architect mirrors the director's own heart](#)- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[UN Studio: Mercedes-Benz Museum, Stuttgart, Germany](#)

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